

Message Text

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TO USMISSION NATO

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 177612

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, CA, PFOR, PARM

SUBJECT: CSCE: CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES

1. CANADIAN EMBASSY COUNSELOR JOHN FRASER CALLED ON DEPTOFF TO ASK A SERIES OF QUESTIONS ON CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES, SAYING THAT OTTAWA WANTED US VIEWS TO ASSIST IN PREPARING CANADIAN SUBMISSION FOR ILLUSTRATIVE LIST. QUESTIONS FOLLOW:

A. WHAT IS THE VIEW OR POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES ON NOTIFICATION OF MOVEMENTS BY LAND, SEA, AND AIR FORCES BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND EUROPE?

B. WHAT IS YOUR POLICY WITH REGARD TO NOTIFICATION OF MANOEUVERS ON THE HIGH SEAS, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO ANY "CUT-OFF LINES" OUTSIDE OF WHICH NOTIFICATION MIGHT CEASE TO BE REQUIRED. IF, FOR EXAMPLE, NOTIFICATION OF MANOEUVERS IN THE ENGLISH CHANNEL OR THE NORTH SEA WERE CONSIDERED ACCEPTABLE,
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HOW FAR INTO THE ATLANTIC WOULD THE AREA EXTEND?

IF, MOREOVER, SEA MOVEMENTS BETWEEN UNITED STATES AND EUROPEAN PORTS WERE NOTIFIED, WOULD IT FOLLOW THAT NOTIFICATION SHOULD BE GIVEN OF MANOEUVERS ANYWHERE BETWEEN THE TWO LAND MASSES?

C. WHAT WOULD BE THE UNITED STATES VIEW ON NOTIFICATION

OF MANOEUVERS WITHIN THE UNITED STATES?

D. WHAT IS THE UNITED STATES ATTITUDE TOWARD ACCEPTING OBSERVERS WITHIN THE UNITED STATES? IF THIS IS CONSIDERED ACCEPTABLE, WHAT SORT OF MILITARY ACTIVITY WOULD BE CONSIDERED ACCEPTABLE FOR OBSERVATION?

2. DEPTOFF REPLIED THAT WE WOULD CONSIDER CANADIAN QUESTIONS, ALTHOUGH THEY WERE OF A SORT THAT LENT THEMSELVES TO STUDY IN CONTEXT OF NATO DISCUSSIONS RATHER THAN BILATERALLY. HOWEVER WE WOULD, OF COURSE, WELCOME CONTINUING INFORMAL BILATERAL CONTACTS WITH CANADIAN REPS. HE STRESSED THAT WE VIEW ILLUSTRATIVE LISTS AS VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO BE PRESENTED BY BOTH THE EAST AND WEST WITHOUT GIVING ANY RATIONALE FOR THE INCLUSION OF PARTICULAR MILITARY ACTIVITIES. THEREFORE, WE BELIEVE NATO MAY NOT HAVE TO BE AS SPECIFIC IN DETAILS AS THE CANADIAN QUESTIONS IMPLY. DEPTOFF ALSO MENTIONED THAT WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE IMPLICATIONS FOR NATO'S FLEXIBILITY OF PRIOR NOTIFICATION OF MAJOR MILITARY MOVEMENTS.

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